So completely impartial a distribution was perhaps confined to the English-speaking world, in which effective emancipation has gone furthest and where for a long time past no reactionary party in the Continental sense has existed. Elsewhere, the Liberal and Left tendency is perhaps stronger; yet nowhere has it been exclusive. Indeed, it is everywhere possible to point to Conservative leaders of great influence, who were of Jewish extraction. In the opinion of some competent observers, the most influential statesman of Jewish birth in the nineteenth century was Disraeli's German contemporary, Friedrich Julius Stahl. His was a fairly commonplace career in the Germany of those days. Brought up as a Jew, he found the inevitable difficulties in his path and was baptized at the age of seventeen. He became one of the best-known German jurists of his day, devoting himself especially to the philosophy of law; his great *Die Philosophic des Hechts nach geschichtlicher Ansicht* running into several editions. When in 1845 the Revolutionary agitation broke out in Germany, Stahl (unlike the majority of Jews) threw himself wholeheartedly into politics on the conservative (perhaps it is more correct to say, reactionary) side. In the Year of Revolutions, 1848, his was the most active, most biting and most effective pen on the side of the Government, and he was rewarded by appointment as a life member of the Upper House.

Throughout the following decade, he was recognised as the leader of the reactionary party, and he lost his power only with the fall of the Manteuffel ministry. An authority

no less than Lord Acton regarded his influence in German conservatism as more dominant than that of Beaconsfield in England. He is described in the *Cambridge Modern*

Chairman of Committees, who had he lived a little longer might have become Speaker. These somewhat unimpressive but essentially respectable names practically conclude the roll.